

Independent Business, which is key voting this vote. It has also been endorsed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Hotel & Lodging Association, the International Franchise Association, the National Restaurant Association, the U.S. Travel Association, and the Independent Community Bankers of America.

The House passed this clean PPP extension last week by an overwhelming margin of 415 to 3.

With the House now in recess and the Senate leaving this week, advancing a clean extension through the Senate ensures the continuation of this vital relief for our small businesses and their employees. We simply have to get this done.

I agree with my colleagues that there are further improvements that could be made to PPP, such as addressing an issue facing certain sole proprietors. Unfortunately, the new administration changed the rules, so sole proprietors who applied early when the program reopened in January were treated differently than sole proprietors who are applying now. That obviously doesn't make sense. We should have the same rule.

I have talked with the new SBA Administrator about this problem. She agrees that it is unfair and needs to be fixed and has committed to working with all the sponsors and with the House and Senate Small Business Committee to find a solution to ensure that the program is implemented as Congress intended.

But in order to ensure that there is adequate time to develop and implement these improvements, we must first, without delay, pass H.R. 1799 to keep the PPP open for another 2 months.

I urge all of my colleagues to support cloture and passage of this important bipartisan legislation. It truly is bipartisan.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator MURRAY and I be permitted to complete our remarks prior to the vote for up to 5 minutes each.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF DAVID TURK

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, today the Senate is going to vote on the nomination of David Turk, who will be serving as Deputy Secretary of Energy. If confirmed, he is going to play a critical role in our Nation's energy agenda and in leading the Department.

His experience in energy policy is extensive. He served in leadership positions at the International Energy Agency, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Department of State, and the National Security Council. He is an expert in the field, and his qualifications are very clear.

It is also clear from his nomination hearing that he is dedicated to all

types of American energy. This is critical if we are going to keep America an energy-dominant nation. I especially appreciated his commitment to advance nuclear and carbon capture utilization and sequestration technologies.

During his hearing, he said that there are huge opportunities on carbon capture utilization and sequestration if we can work together and really go to scale. He also emphasized the need to construct CO₂ pipelines to move the captured carbon, and I agree. Carbon capture technologies hold the key to major emission reduction while enabling America to use the tremendous natural resources with which we are blessed.

This issue has broad bipartisan support. Last Congress, I worked with Democrats, including SHELDON WHITEHOUSE and TOM CARPER, as well as Republicans, including SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, to pass the USE IT Act into law. This bipartisan law will support the development of carbon capture and direct air capture techniques.

This kind of groundbreaking research is already happening in Wyoming. The Integrated Test Center located outside of Gillette, WY, is hosting carbon capture research teams today. These research teams are looking at how we can take captured carbon emissions and transform them into marketable products like building materials, clothing, and even hand sanitizer. So I would welcome Mr. Turk and Energy Secretary Granholm to come to Gillette to see the fantastic research taking place there.

Mr. Turk was also very responsive to the committee's questions for the record. That has not been the case with every one of President Biden's nominees so far.

If he is confirmed, Mr. Turk must prioritize policies that take advantage of the enormous economic and national security benefits generated by America's oil, natural gas, and coal resources.

The Biden administration has taken a sledgehammer to the economies of Wyoming and other Western States by declaring war on these natural resources. Let me be very clear: Coal, oil and natural gas are not going away. America is going to rely on these resources for decades to come. We need to use and promote every kind of American energy and the thousands of jobs that come with them.

Coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear power, and renewables are all essential to America's energy mix. Mr. Turk demonstrated that he understood that reality during his nomination hearing. He can be sure that I will hold him to the commitments he made during his nomination hearing to expand carbon capture as well as nuclear power. I am going to continue to hold the Biden administration accountable as well.

As I did in committee, I will support Mr. Turk's nomination on the floor today.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION OF RACHEL LELAND LEVINE

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise today to strongly urge my colleagues to support the nomination of Dr. Rachel Levine. She is a highly qualified public health expert to serve as Assistant Secretary for Health.

As the highest ranking health official in Pennsylvania, she led the State's COVID-19 response by focusing on transparency and clear, science-based communication; giving daily briefings on the status of the pandemic; and advocating for the resources and support Pennsylvanians needed.

Dr. Levine has been on the frontlines of this pandemic, which is why she knows firsthand what our States and communities need from the Department of Health and Human Services. Even before this crisis, Dr. Levine established herself as a trusted voice to the people of Pennsylvania on matters of public health through her work to establish opioid prescribing guidelines and education for medical students, make lifesaving treatment for opioid overdoses widely available, combat eating disorders, increase health equity, and help the LGBTQ community get healthcare.

She was confirmed to both of her positions in the State with broad bipartisan support. She passed out of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee with support from Republican colleagues last week, and I hope she will be confirmed today in a strong bipartisan vote as well.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge what her confirmation today would represent for our country because, in addition to being a high qualified nominee, Dr. Levine is also a historic one. Upon confirmation, she will be the highest ranking openly transgender official in our government and the first one ever confirmed by the Senate.

I have always said the people in our government should reflect the people it serves, and today we will take a new, historic step toward making that a reality.

I am proud to vote for Dr. Levine and incredibly proud of the progress this confirmation will represent for our country and for transgender people all across it who are watching today. I hope all my colleagues are as well.

I would also say how glad I am that yesterday we voted to confirm Dr. Murthy as Surgeon General.

During his last tenure as Surgeon General, Dr. Murthy established himself as a trusted voice on matters of public health, helped see our Nation through the Zika outbreak, and published groundbreaking reports on the opioid epidemic and rising youth tobacco use.

I am pleased to have Dr. Murthy returning to the role of Surgeon General at this critical time.

When it comes to ending this pandemic, we have a lot of work to do and

no time to waste. We are going to need all the help we can get, particularly from experts like Dr. Murthy and Dr. Levine to get it done.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON LEVINE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Levine nomination?

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 134 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Hassan	Padilla	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—48

Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON TURK NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Turk nomination?

Mr. PETERS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 135 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Baldwin	Cantwell	Cramer
Barrasso	Capito	Crapo
Bennet	Cardin	Cruz
Blackburn	Carper	Daines
Blumenthal	Casey	Duckworth
Blunt	Cassidy	Durbin
Booker	Collins	Ernst
Boozman	Coons	Feinstein
Braun	Cornyn	Fischer
Brown	Cortez Masto	Gillibrand
Burr	Cotton	Graham

Grassley	Marshall	Scott (FL)
Hagerty	McConnell	Scott (SC)
Hassan	Menendez	Shaheen
Heinrich	Merkley	Shelby
Hickenlooper	Moran	Sinema
Hirono	Murkowski	Smith
Hoeben	Murphy	Stabenow
Hyde-Smith	Murray	Sullivan
Inhofe	Ossoff	Tester
Johnson	Padilla	Thune
Kaine	Peters	Tillis
Kelly	Portman	Toomey
Kennedy	Reed	Tuberville
King	Risch	Van Hollen
Klobuchar	Romney	Warner
Lankford	Rosen	Warnock
Leahy	Rounds	Warren
Lee	Rubio	Whitehouse
Lujan	Sanders	Wicker
Lummis	Sasse	Wyden
Manchin	Schatz	Young
Markey	Schumer	

NAYS—2

Hawley	Paul
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 11, H.R. 1799, a bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patrick J. Leahy, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Patty Murray, Martin Heinrich, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Jon Ossoff, Jeanne Shaheen, Mark R. Warner, Kyrsten Sinema, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tina Smith, Ron Wyden, Jacky Rosen, Benjamin L. Cardin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 1799, a bill to amend the Small Business Act and CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes, be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 136 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Baldwin	Booker	Cardin
Barrasso	Boozman	Carper
Bennet	Brown	Casey
Blackburn	Burr	Cassidy
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Collins
Blunt	Capito	Coons

Cornyn	King	Rubio
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cotton	Lankford	Sasse
Cramer	Leahy	Schatz
Crapo	Lee	Schumer
Daines	Lujan	Scott (FL)
Duckworth	Lummis	Scott (SC)
Durbin	Manchin	Shaheen
Ernst	Markey	Shelby
Feinstein	Marshall	Sinema
Fischer	McConnell	Smith
Gillibrand	Menendez	Stabenow
Graham	Merkley	Sullivan
Grassley	Moran	Tester
Hagerty	Murkowski	Thune
Hassan	Murphy	Tillis
Heinrich	Murray	Toomey
Hickenlooper	Ossoff	Tuberville
Hirono	Padilla	Van Hollen
Hoeben	Peters	Warner
Hyde-Smith	Portman	Warnock
Inhofe	Reed	Warren
Johnson	Risch	Whitehouse
Kaine	Romney	Wicker
Kelly	Rosen	Wyden
Kennedy	Rounds	Young

NAYS—4

Braun	Hawley
Cruz	Paul

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). On this vote, the yeas are 96, the nays are 4.

The motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PPP EXTENSION ACT OF 2021— MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked, the Senate will resume legislative session and the motion to proceed to H.R. 1799, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 11, H.R. 1799, an act to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes.

PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following morning business tomorrow, Thursday, March 25, all postcloture time on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 11, H.R. 1799, the PPP Extension Act, be considered expired and the motion to proceed be agreed to; that the only amendments in order be the following: Kennedy, No. 1401; Rubio, No. 1405; further, that it be in order for Senator PAUL or his designee to raise a Budget Act point of order; finally, that at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed and on the motion to waive, if made; that if the motion to waive is agreed to, the bill be considered read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the bill as amended, if amended, with 60 affirmative votes required for passage, all with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.